



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Isiah Leggett**  
County Executive

**Uma Ahluwalia**  
Director

**COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 19, 2015**

**CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carole Brown, Chris Fogleman (Chair), Barbara Holtz, Julie Malloy, Roberta (Birdie) Pieczenik, Dana Pisanelli, Carlean Ponder, Wendy Pulliam.

**AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Francha Davis, Frank Duncan, Susan Farag, Risa Mainprize, George Simms, Michael Subin, Jenny West-Porter and Elijah Wheeler.

**ABSENT MEMBERS:** Linda Currie, Michael Gruenberg, Julian Haffner, Mehul Madia, Perry Paylor, Mary Siegfried, and Ira Thomas.

**STAFF LIAISON PRESENT:** Diane Lininger

**EMERITUS MEMBERS:** Dr. Lee Haller

**GUESTS:** Margi Josh, Amy Bills and Bonnie DeWitt.

**Commission on Juvenile Justice**

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facsimile

I. **Announcements –**

- A. Interviews for prospective new commissioners were done
- B. Nominations for a new executive committee will be asked for this month. Positions open Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Chair of Care, Custody and Placement and Chair of Government and Community Relations. Please sign up if you want to be on the nominating committee. You cannot be one of the nominees if you are on the committee.
- C. Annual work plan – Committees should be working on their work plan and should be finished by June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- D. Judge's meeting – Commissioners felt meeting was a success. Judges reported that they wished they could have more parental involvement with the DJS youth. With youth who are involved with Child Welfare, the judges can order the parents to complete tasks. Some commissioners heard that the judges wanted to hold regular meetings with community and county groups. A sign up sheet, to form an ad-hoc committee, was passed around to discuss how to proceed with this topic.

II. **Old Business**

- March and April 2015 minutes – Motions were made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve by the Commission

III. **New Business - Mike Subin – Montgomery County Diversion and Alternative programs.**

- Vocational programs underutilized – kids up involved with DJS because of difficulty in access to programs
- Programs that are preventative are being underfunded, i.e. conservation corp and Excel Beyond the Bell. Are able to serve limited amounts of children due to the underfunding.
- Commission in the past has not been a preventative commission but these kids are on the cusp of DJS involvement.
- Truancy program is expanding to 10 schools, they are holding a graduation ceremony next week. George Simms, State's Attorneys Office, works with Mario Loiderman middle school.
- Department of Juvenile Services – received a grant thru the Collaboration Council to hire a staff person to run the Cins (Child in Need of Assistance) program. Staff person is up and running. Maybe we can have staff person speak at a commission meeting.
- Mike – concern that these children who are not receiving preventative services are going to be involved with Department of Juvenile Services. Mike wants Commissioners to pick one – three areas to concentrate on.
- The three areas are, what options do we have to serve these youth, what needs do they have and how can we help these kids?

IV. Adjourn – meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm